

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

NEVEU, et al.

Serial No.:

09/773,452

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Art Unit:

3713

Examiner:

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10/16/02 Date Michael Lough

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 2327 Arlington, VA 22202 RECEIVED

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) and includes a Statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e). The Statement applies to all references listed on Form PTO-1449 (1 page), provided herewith. Because this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by a Statement, no fee should be due. If, however, it is determined that a fee is due, any fees that may be due in connection with filing this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1213.

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 C.F.R. §1.56 to inform the Patent Office of all references known by Applicant or Applicant's representative that may be material to the examination of the subject application, Applicant's representative hereby provides this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement that is prepared in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98.

The enclosed references were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the attached Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. Form PTO-1449 (1

U.S.S.N. 09/773,4 NEVEU, et al. SUPPLEMENTAL IDS

page), copies of the cited documents, and a copy of the communication, the International Search Report for the PCT International Patent Application No. PCT/USO2/02710 are provided herewith in the English language. However, item B (Japanese Patent No. 11-197359) which is in the Japanese language, is supplied with an English language patent abstract describing the subject matter (item D). Hence, in accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98, as amended effective March 16, 1992, no further explanation of the listed items is necessary.

Although these documents are made known to the Patent and Trademark Office in compliance with Applicant's duty of disclosure, such disclosure is not to be construed as an admission by Applicant or Applicant's representative that any of the references, singly or in any combination thereof, is effective as prior art against the subject application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b) exists.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner review the foregoing references and information and that they be made of record in the file history of the above-captioned application.

Respectfully submitted,

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